(d) whether any MOU or Agreement has been signed with any of the foreign investors as on date for some of the ITDC hotels, if so, the details thereof and terms and conditions of the said agreement/MOU?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The proposal for setting up joint ventures with international hotel chains for the purpose of developing some ITDC hotel properties has been approved in principle by the Govt. In such joint ventures, the equity participation of ITDC can be up to 40 per cent. There is no proposal to dis-invest equity of ITDC.

(c) and (d) Negotiations are being held with international hotel chains to form joint venture companies with ITDC. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

Streamlining of production and publicity division of ITDC

2686. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the ITDC's divisions previously known as 'Production and Publicity Division was streamlined and strengthened in 1971-72 exclusively for the print publicity programme of Department of Tourism;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the activities performed by the said division of ITDC are now almost on the verge of collapse/closure since Department of Tourism is not giving sufficient print production/publicity jobs to ITDC for the last over four years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what efforts are being made by Government/ITDC to revive the above mentioned P and P Division/activity of ITDC?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Production and Publicity Division has been recently re-vamped into the Marketing Division by ITDC and gets more business from the Central and State Departments of Tourism.

Modernisation of Airports in Madhya Pradesh

2687. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have selected some airports in the country for modernisation and making them ideal airports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the number of airports which are likely to be modernised in the State of Madhya Pradesh under the modernisation plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) There is a proposal for developing twelve airports as model airports, viz. Jaipur, Lucknow, Nagpur, Indore, Vadodara, Hyderabad, Coimbatore, Calicut, Patna, Bhubaneshwar, Guwahati and Imphal. Modernisation programme includes construction of new Terminal Building/expansion of existing Terminal Building, wherever possible, extention of runway to 7500 ft., provision of latest landing aids and other operational infrastructure. The task will commence in 1992-93 and is likely to be completed by end of 1994.

Disinvestment of ITDC properties

2688. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ITDC employees have expressed their discontentment and are not in favour of the proposed 'Joint Venture Scheme/proposition' of the Government with foreign nationals etc., after allowing disinvestment

upto 40 per cent in ITDC Hotel Properties at this juncture;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether Government would consider to give ITDC Hotels to the employees for managing their activities profitability for atleast two years before considering the proposal of disinvestment to multinational Companies/Foreigners, etc.;

(c) if the answer to (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the evaluation of the ITDC Hotels have been made at quite a lower side by foreign banks and no other Government Expert/Agency from the Ministry of Urban Development/Finance etc. were associated in the said evaluation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Government have formulated a scheme whereby small groups of ITDC hotels would be formed for the purpose of developing them as joint ventures with foreign hotel chains. ITDC Union have expressed their concern over the forming of joint ventures mainly for the reasons that it will not be in the interest of workers. As the scheme formulated by the Govt. envisages much wider objectives including the welfare of the employees, it was not found feasible to agree to other suggestions.

(d) The evaluation of ITDC hotel properties by four foreign banks is an independent evaluation which can be used as an indicative figure for raising resources, planning investment and determining economic returns to the Corporation.

Economically viable routes of Air India

2689. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the routes of Air ndia are economically viable;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated to make them economically viable

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) All the routes on which Air India operate passenger services have produced cash surplus during 1991-92.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Modernisation of Airports in Uttar Pradesh

2690. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to modernise some airports of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with amount involved on each such airport;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to undertake modernisation of airports of Uttar Pradesh on its own; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) No specific request has been received to modernise airports in Uttar Pradesh. However, the National Airports Authority has plans to modernise various facilities at Agra, Allahabad, Dehradun, Kanpur, Lucknow, Pant Nagar and Varanasi airports in Uttar Pradesh with an outlay of Rs. 7.57 crores during 1992-93. The airport at Lucknow is among the twelve airports selected to be developed as model airports in the country.